

Regulatory Requirements

Land and Water Management Plan

Crawford County will comply with Wisconsin's Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection's Administrative rule ATCP 50.12 Land and Water Resource Management Plan. . Copies are available at the Land Conservation Department, 225 N Beaumont, Prairie du Chien, WI 53821 or at the county web site www.crawfordcountywi.org.

Non-Metallic Mining Ordinance:

Crawford County adopted a nonmetallic mining reclamation ordinance in response to Wis. Administrative Code NR 135, and is being jointly administered by Land Conservation Department and the Planning and Zoning Department. This ordinance requires operators of nonmetallic mining sites to plan for a specific post-mining reclamation at their sites.

With approximately 35 nonmetallic mines in the county, the Land Conservation Department is occupied inspecting, measuring the acreage covered by mining activity, receiving and reviewing reclamation plans, investigation complains and other overall technical aspects of the program. The Planning and Zoning Department performs the administrative aspect of the program, by collecting fees, sending notices, and handling records.

Students with an interest in reclamation have been hired for the summer months during the past three years to collect data and assist with the program.

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Manure Storage Ordinance:

The purpose of the Manure Storage Ordinance for Crawford County is to regulate the location, design, construction, installation, and use of earthen animal manure storage facilities. New or substantially altered earthen manure storage facilities shall be designed, constructed and maintained to protect water quality.

Copies are available at the Land Conservation Department, 225 N Beaumont, Prairie du Chien, WI 53821 or at the county web site www.crawfordcountywi.org.

Performance Standards: NR 151 Performance Standards Implementation Strategy

The following is the Crawford County Land Conservation Department's proposed strategy for the implementation of the NR 151 performance standards.

Identification of Priority Farms

Priority farms are:

- Farms within watersheds most impaired by soil loss and water quality. The rank in descending order for 2004 Transect data is Rush Creek, Millville Creek, Lower Kickapoo, Reeds Tainter, and Knapp Creek.
- Farms in watershed draining to DNR listed as "Impaired Waters (Section 303D)"
- Farms in Water Quality Management Areas
- Farms making application for the Farmland Preservation Program

Action items for Priority Farms

- Priority farms will be grouped by county watersheds and the watersheds will be ranked by soil loss according to the most recent data available from the transect survey and water quality data from DNR and citizen monitoring. (see Action Plan – Soil Erosion Section)
- Informational meetings will target the watersheds most impaired and be followed by volunteer on-farm evaluations using the Compliance Checklist (see appendix).
- The implementation of the strategy is based on staff and funding availability.

New rules, promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection to control polluted runoff went into effect October 1, 2002 (except where noted).

Performance Standards	Conservation Practices
<p><i>For farmers who grow agricultural crops</i> Meet “T” (tolerable soil loss) on all cropped fields. (Calculated using RUSLEII)</p>	<p>Install contour farming, cover and green manure crop, crop rotation, diversion, residue management, and strip-cropping. Related runoff controls: critical area stabilization, grade stabilization structures, sinkhole treatment, water and sediment control basins, waterway systems.</p>
<p><i>For farmers who grow agricultural crops</i> Follow a nutrient management plan designed to limit entry of nutrients into state waters (groundwater and surface water starting: <i>Oct 1, 2003</i> for new croplands <i>Jan 1, 2005</i> for high priority areas such as impaired or exceptional waters; and <i>Jan 1, 2008</i> for all others as cost sharing is available.</p>	<p>Develop and follow an annual nutrient management plan for applying fertilizer or manure. Base plans on soil test conducted by a DATCP certified laboratory. Become qualified to prepare plan or use qualified planners. Apply nutrients according to UWEX recommendations for crops. Install additional conservation or management practices to reduce nutrient loading.</p>
<p><i>For farmers who raise, feed, or house livestock.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No overflowing manure storage facilities. 2. No unconfined manure piles in a water quality management area 3. No direct runoff from a feedlot or stored manure into the waters of the state. 4. No unlimited access by livestock to water of the state in a location where high concentrations of animals prevent the maintenance of adequate sod or self-sustaining vegetative cover. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design, construct, and maintain facilities to technical standards. 2. Relocate manure piles, construct manure storage facilities. 3. Install barnyard runoff control systems, including, diversions, milking center waste control systems, relocation or abandoning animal feeding operations, roof runoff systems, sediment basins, subsurface drains, underground outlets, water and sediment control basins, wastewater treatment strips, and assist in well decommissioning. 4. Install access roads and cattle crossing, animal trails and walkways, critical area stabilization, livestock fencing, livestock watering facilities, prescribed grazing, riparian buffers, streambank and shoreline protection.
<p><i>For farmers with land in a water quality management area. Effective October 1, 2002</i> Divert clean water away from feedlots, manure storage areas and barnyards located within this area</p>	<p>Install diversions, roof runoff systems, subsurface drains, and underground outlets.</p>
<p><i>For farmers who have or plan to build a manure storage structure. Effective October 1, 2002.</i> Construct, maintain and close manure storage facilities to prevent manure overflows and leaks.</p>	<p>Meet NRCS standards for construction, maintenance, and closure using technical standards; 313 (waste storage facility), 360 (closure of waste impoundments), 634 (manure transfer standard.)</p>

Information and Educational Activities

The Crawford County LCD will employ varied ways to contact landowners and inform them of Wisconsin's agricultural performance standards and prohibitions such as a combination of newsletters, public informational meetings, news media, and one-on-one contacts.

Determining Current Compliance

Records Inventory

The records inventory will be a review of existing records of landowners throughout the county who may already be in compliance based upon past and present program participation. The FPP standards have been updated.

- Farmland Preservation Program – annual review.
- Reviews of existing plan folders,
- Contracts developed through County Cost Share programs.

Onsite Evaluations

Crawford County Land Conservation Department will conduct on-site evaluations using the Compliance Checklist (see appendix) based on the following criteria.

1. Review at the request of the landowner.
2. Landowners who are found out of compliance (using the Compliance Checklist) during normal records inventory process.
3. Formal complaints received by the Land Conservation Department
4. Farmsteads located within a Water Quality Management Area that drains into an Impaired Stream or on of Crawford Counties Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters. Farmsteads in a Water Quality Management Area will be determined through the use of existing geographic information systems. Farmsteads that apply for the Farmland Preservation Program.
5. Farmsteads located in the most impaired watersheds as determined by the Transect Survey (see Action Plan – Soil Erosion section)

The Compliance Checklist will be recorded and kept in the Land Conservation Department/USDA landowner file. A copy also will be kept in a countywide GIS database maintained by Crawford County and the Land Conservation Department.

Prepare Report and Notify Landowners of Compliance Status

Following completion of a records review and/or an on-site evaluation the Crawford County LCD will prepare and issue a NR 151 Status Report to owners of the evaluated parcels.

The report will include the following:

- The current status of compliance of individual parcels with each of the performance standards and prohibition
- Corrective measures needed to be brought into compliance a rough cost estimates to comply with each of the performance standards and prohibitions.
- Status of eligibility for public cost sharing
- Grant funding sources and technical assistance available from Federal, state, and local sources, and third party service providers.
- Explanations of conditions that apply if public cost share funds are used.
- A signature line indication landowner's agreement or disagreement with the report finding.
- The process and procedures to contest evaluation results to county and or state.
- A copy of the performance standards and prohibitions and technical design standards

Administer Funding and Technical Assistance

The LCD uses various sources for funding conservation practices including federal, state, and private dollars. Annual allocations from DATCP are used alone or piggy backed with federal and private funds. The Local Work group encourages the following practices...

Erosion Control Practices:	Environmental and Water Quality Practices:
Critical Area Shaping, Grassed Waterways, Diversion, Grade Stabilization Structures, Steambank & Shoreline Protection Access Roads & Stream Crossings	Sinkhole Treatment, Tree and Shrub Establishment Forest Site Preparation Cover Crops, Fencing, Conservation Cover
Waste Management Practices:	Demonstration Practices:
Diversions, Nutrient Management Plans, Roof Runoff Systems, Barnyard Runoff Control Sediment Basin Filter Strips, Heavy Use Area Protection,	Prescribed Grazing, Multi-flora Rose Control,

County Cost Share participants will be required to sign a cooperative agreement with the Land Conservation Department that will allow a review of their farm for compliance. We will check the whole farm to document areas meeting and not meeting compliance on required standards.

If cost sharing is involved an agreement will be developed that includes a schedule for installing or implementing Best Management Practices (BMP's). Technical assistance will be provided in the following forms.

- Conservation planning assistance
- Review of conservation plans prepared by other than LCD staff
- Engineering design assistance
- Review of designs prepared by other than LCD staff
- Construction oversight
- Certification of construction practices
- Cost containment

After installation of a practice, the LCD staff will evaluate if the parcel in compliance with applicable performance or prohibitions.

Strategy to Encourage Voluntary Compliance

- Provide landowners with information concerning;
 - The performance standards and prohibitions, their design and requirements.
 - How the standards and prohibitions apply to their land and their status concerning compliance
 - The options they have to achieve and/or maintaining compliance
 - The implication of their decision and action regarding compliance
 - Available sources of cost sharing and technical assistance and how to access them
- Provide information about practices that would bring landowners into compliance with standards or prohibitions
- Provide help to apply for cost sharing and other technical assistance
- Provide technical assistance to prepare and review conservation plans and designs.
- Administer cost sharing
- Provide follow-up and support to maintain compliance.

Notice

- All landowners will receive written copies of their NR151 compliance status or other ordinance status evaluation and the actions of the Land Conservation Department.

Appeal /Hearing

- Any landowner wishing to appeal their evaluation of NR 151 compliance may request a hearing before the Crawford County Land Conservation Committee.

Enforcement

- If a landowner refuses technical and financial assistance from the Crawford County Land Conservation Department, in an NR 151 compliance requirement, they will be notified by mail that they may be subject to an enforcement action pursuant to NR 151.09. Appropriate DNR Geographic Management Unit Leaders will be notified of landowner refusal. Landowner refusals in the Bad Axe Basin will be referred to the DNR office in LaCrosse and those in the Lower Wisconsin Basin will be referred to the DNR office in Dodgeville.
- A Copy of the Compliance Checklist (see appendix), all correspondence with the client, all determinations made by the Land Conservation Department and actions of the Crawford County Land Conservation Committee regarding the client, and a recommendation by the department and committee on how to proceed with enforcement will be sent to the area DNR Geographic Management Unit Leader.
- County ordinances will be enforced as listed in the Penalty section 25.04 of the Crawford County Code.